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ET Choices: A Route Out Of Poverty

The Massachusetts Employment and Training CHOICES Program

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ET Choices: A Route Out Of Poverty

The Massachusetts Employment and Training CHOICES Program

We call it ET

Employment and Training Choices is Massachusetts' employment program for people on public assistance.

We call it ET.

The program began in October 1983.

How does ET work?

All welfare recipients are referred to ET for an assessment of their job readiness.

ET participants may choose from four areas of activity:

- job placement through the Division of Employment Security
- on-the-job training through Supported Work
- education and skills training
- assessment and career counseling

Daycare and transportation allowances are available to all ET participants.

Over 600 ET grads go to work every month

Each month, over 600 ET graduates obtain full-time jobs through ET.

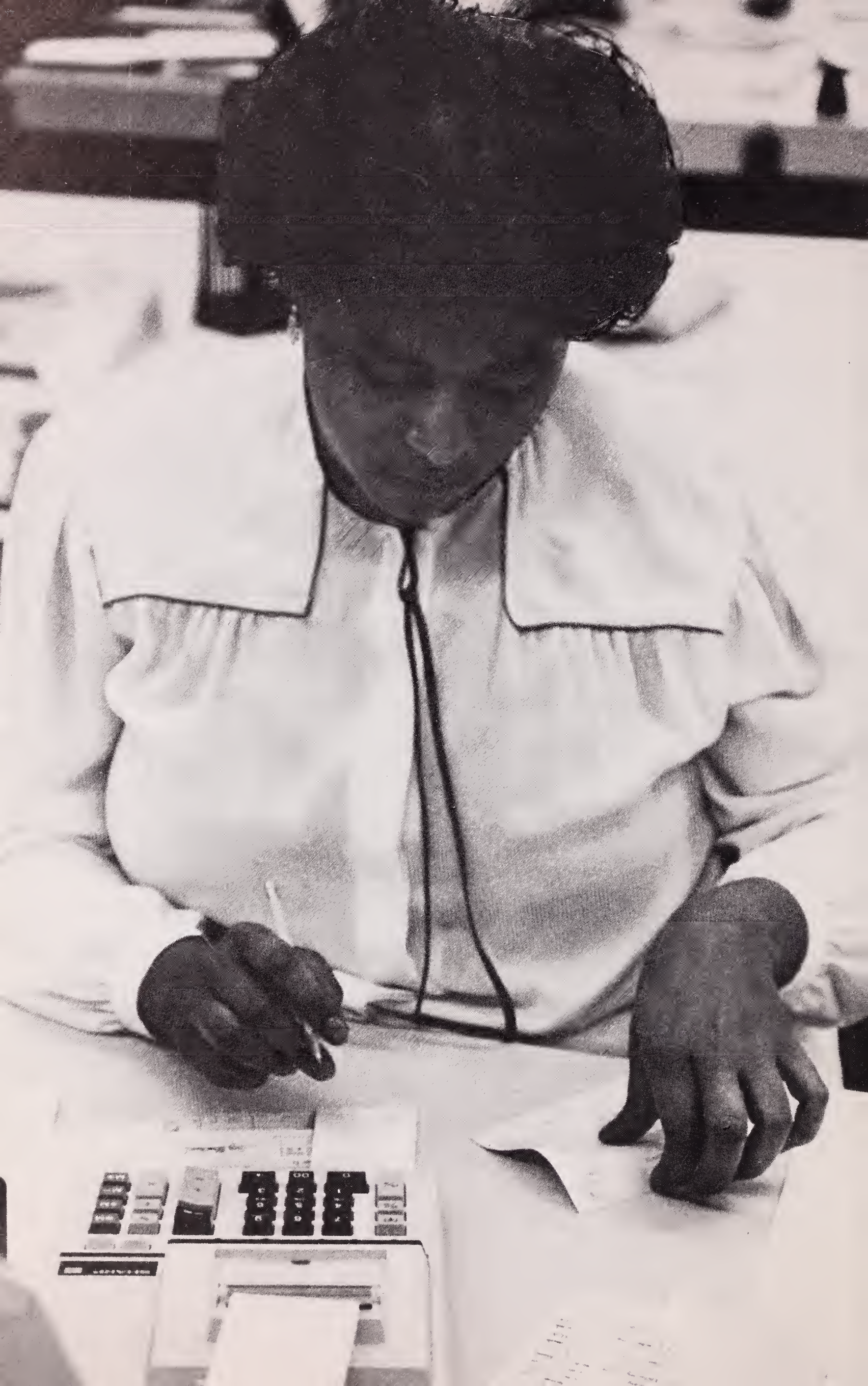
This does not include those welfare recipients who get jobs on their own; they are not counted as part of the ET program.

ET jobs are *real* jobs

All ET jobs are *unsubsidized.* They are real jobs, not make-work public projects. These are jobs that provide career-track opportunities.

80% of the ET placements are in private sector jobs.

Over two-thirds of the jobs provide health insurance.



ET pays over twice as much as welfare

Currently, the average starting salary for full-time ET placements is nearly $6.50 per hour, or $13,000 per year.

This is more than twice the average yearly welfare grant of $5,600 per year in Massachusetts (based on a family of three).

An ET hire is a good hire

Employers have stated that the ET graduates they have hired are exceptionally well-trained and highly motivated.

Our welfare caseload is down

Since ET began, Massachusetts' welfare caseload has *declined* 5% — from 88,500 on October 1, 1983 to 84,000 on July 1, 1987 — despite the fact that welfare benefits in Massachusetts have *increased* 47% since 1983.

In contrast, over the last 4 years, welfare caseloads in the nation's twelve largest welfare states have *increased* an average of 6%.

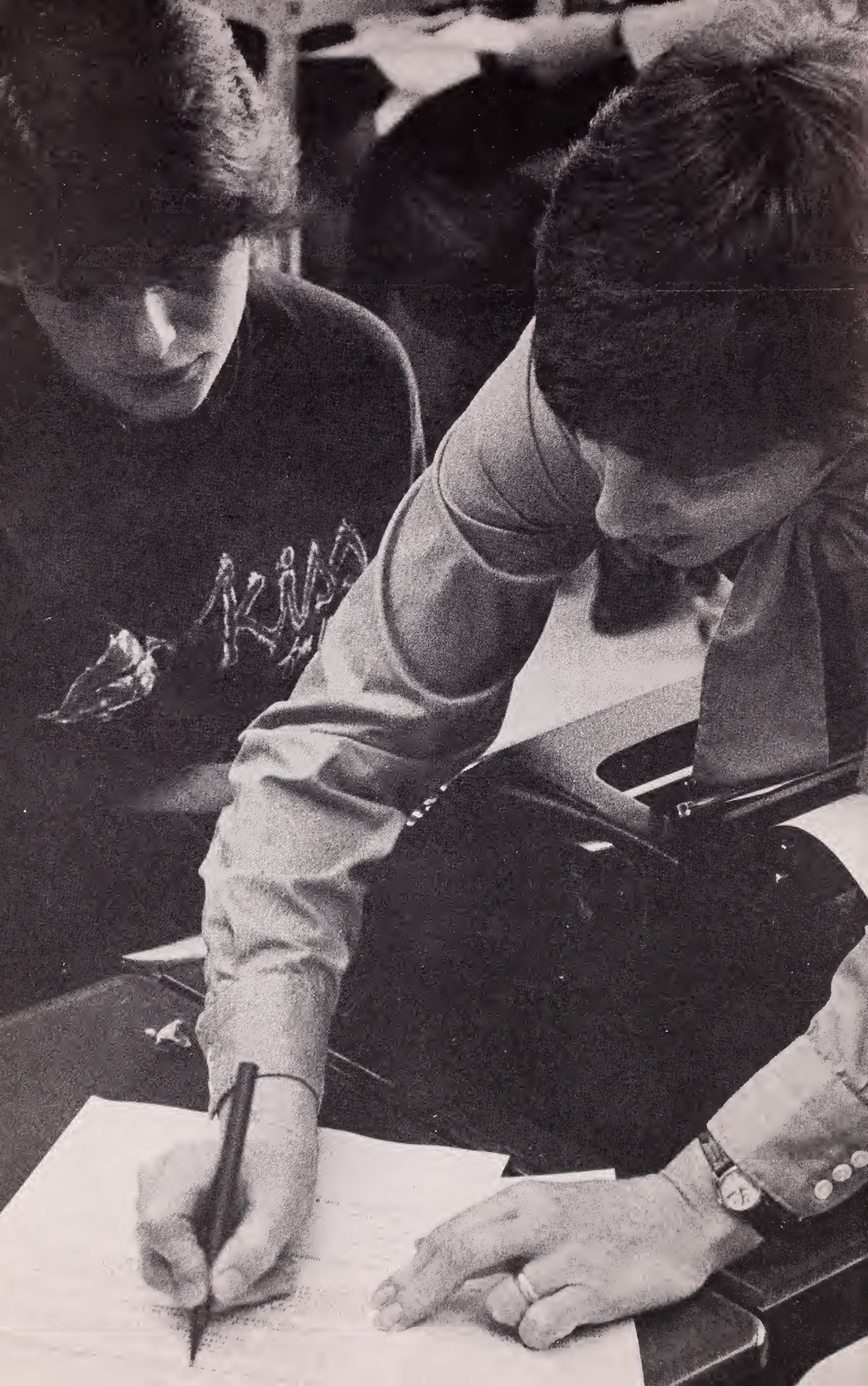
ET is cost effective

After deducting the costs of the program, ET saved over $100 million in 1986 in:

- reduced welfare benefits
- new Social Security revenue
- income tax contributions
- sales tax contributions

ET is a route out of poverty

Of the people who go off welfare through ET, 86% are still off welfare one year later.


RING

ET is a Public/Private Partnership

More than 10,000 Massachusetts firms have hired ET graduates.

Through the local Private Industry Councils, private sector leaders have helped design and guide ET training courses.

Over 1000 businesses have participated in job fairs and other ET recruitment activities.

If you would like to find out more about ET. . .

write to:

Barbara Burke-Tatum
Associate Commissioner for
Employment and Training
Department of Public Welfare
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
180 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02111

or call: (617) 348-5200

A sample of ET employers. . .

Adams and Abbott
Aetna Life and Casualty
Alpha Industries
American Cancer Society
American Mutual Insurance Company
American Optical
Apollo Computer Corporation
AT & T
AVCO Corporation
Bank of Boston
Bank of New England
Bart's Ice Cream
Bay Cove Human Services
Berkshire Porcelain Studios
Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Bolt, Beranek & Newman
Boston's Beth Israel Hospital
Boston Financial Data Services
Boston Five Cents Savings Bank
Boston Gas Company
Bradlees
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Bristol Knitting Mills
Cahners Publishing Company
Canberra Clinical Lab
Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cliftex Corporation
Combustion Engineering Company
Dennison National Company
Digital Equipment Corporation
Fallon Community Health Plan
Friendly Ice Cream Corporation
GCA Corporaiton
Gemini Corporation
General Electric
Gillette Corporation
Hale & Dorr
Harvard Cooperative Society
Horizon House
Intercity Homemaker
IT & T Semi-conductor
Jewish Nursing Home
Jordan Marsh
Kangaroo Pouch
K & M Electronics
Legal Seafoods
L.F.E. Corporation
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
M/A-Com
Mary Immaculate Nursing Home
Marriott Hotel
Massachusetts General Hospital
Mercury Labs
Moduform, Inc.
Montachusett Office Systems
Morse Shoe
New England Deaconess Hospital
New England Medical Center
New England Telephone Company
Ocean Spray
Office Specialists
Norton Company
Parker Metal Company
Pittsfield Mold and Tool
Preferred Electronics
Prime Computer
Quality Seafoods
Raytheon
R.H. White Construction
Robertson Curtain Factories
Sacred Heart Nursing Home
Saxton Corporation
Shawmut Bank in Boston
Showcase Cinemas
Solo Products
State Street Bank and Trust Company
Stone & Webster Engineering
Stride-Rite Corporation
Teradyne
Texas Instruments
Twistex
United Parcel Service
University of Massachusetts/Amherst
VA Hospital
Wall Industries
Wang Laboratories
Winthrop Printing
Worcester City Hospital
Zayre Warehouse

Employment and Training Choices
is a program of
Your Department of
Public Welfare
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Michael S. Dukakis, Governor